

## RE: Convoy lines

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**From:** "Habert, Andie" <andie.habert@ps-sp.gc.ca>  
**To:** "Williams, Caroline" <caroline.williams@qpc-cpr.gc.ca>  
**Date:** Thu, 03 Feb 2022 17:54:14 +0000

Hey Caroline,

Of course!

### Lines

- Our government will always support the right to peaceful protest in Canada – but we will also always condemn violence and threats.
- These demonstrations have caused significant disruption to local businesses and community organizers, vandalism of our national war monuments, and blatant expressions of hate and incitement to violence.
- All elected officials must denounce this conduct as an affront to our democracy
- Local police are taking steps to remove obstructions, clear routes and restore safe access to the downtown core and parliamentary precinct
- We will continue to take whatever steps are necessary to keep the protest peaceful, ensure safe access downtown, and that those participating in the demonstration abide by the law, and respect local residents.
- Federal public safety partners will continue to support local police to ensure public safety.

### *If pressed - IMVE*

- Our government will always support the right to peaceful protest in Canada – but we will also always condemn violence and threats.
- We are deeply concerned about the small number of vocal extremists opposition that is polluting much of our political debate.
- ideologically motivated violent extremism is “our most deadly extremist threat.”
- The Parliamentary Protective Service and local police will respond to any issues as necessary, and our national law enforcement and security agencies are continuously monitoring potential threats.

### Bringing in RCMP

- Ottawa police services and parliamentary protective services remain the police of jurisdiction in the areas effected by protestors.
- Should the municipality ask for help, the RCMP will be ready to assist.
- The RCMP will continue to support law enforcement to manage disruptions and ensure all residents and those who work in downtown Ottawa feel safe.

### Coutts POE Blockade

#### *High level*

- We are closely monitoring the ongoing situation at Coutts. While the Port of Entry itself is unaffected, a key stretch of Alberta Highway 4 just north of the border has been blockaded.
- On Wednesday, the RCMP confirmed that two lanes on highway 4 have since been opened.
- The Government of Alberta is primarily responsible for the situation, while the federal government is coordinating closely and Minister Mendicino is in touch with his provincial counterparts.

- On Tuesday, the CBSA expanded opening hours at the Carway and Del Bonita, AB crossings to help travelers and trade keep moving.
- The Alberta RCMP – as the local police of jurisdiction – are managing the situation. We thank them for their tireless efforts in the face of significant challenges.
- After repeated attempts to resolve things through discussions with the organizers, the RCMP has now begun to dismantle the blockade. They are best suited to speak to operational details.

#### *Additional on the impact of the blockade*

- The Coutts-Sweetgrass Border Crossing is among the most important in Western Canada, and a massive amount of goods – including perishable food and live animals – are currently stuck on both sides of the border.
- While we support peaceful protests, this illegal blockade poses serious risks.
- Local residents can't leave their town or be reached by emergency services, while hundreds of truckers are stuck in dangerous conditions, without access to food, water or restrooms.
- The blockade also is causing serious issues for a wide array of other businesses across the West who rely on the crossing to get their goods to market.

#### *GoFundMe Campaign*

- We are aware that Gofundme has paused the convoy's crowdfunding campaign.
- We know that a number of donors identified themselves as living abroad, in countries such as the United States, Australia, England or Poland.
- It is not possible to know how many people from outside Canada donated to the fundraising page, nor possible to know the number of US donors.

#### **Andie Habert**

Issues Manager | Gestion des enjeux

Office of the Minister of Public Safety | Cabinet du ministre de la Sécurité publique

Irrelevant | [andie.habert@ps-sp.gc.ca](mailto:andie.habert@ps-sp.gc.ca)

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**From:** Williams, Caroline <Caroline.Williams@qpc-cpr.gc.ca>

**Sent:** Thursday, February 3, 2022 12:46 PM

**To:** Habert, Andie <Andie.Habert@ps-sp.gc.ca>

**Subject:** Convoy lines

Hi Andie,

Could I please grab your convoy lines from this morning's call?

-Caroline